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On Pathology — Defin.ⁿ of it 15.

on the Uses of Diseases. 5
Definition of Disease. 15.
Causes of Disease ibid

Gentlemen /

I have hitherto considerd the humain body as the divines considir the humen mind in paradise, that is in a perfect or healthy State. It remains now that we view this body as divines view the mind after the fall, that is an imperfect or diseased State. Sickness and death like moral evil were the consequences of the first act of the disobedience of the first man to the will of his creator. It is true the execution of the Sentence of death denounced against him, was delayed beyond the day of his apostacy, but the causes which finally produced it began to act upon his system as soon

he lost ~~his~~ image of his maker. Every element in nature took part with his offended creator, and conspired to destroy his life. Their operation for a while was feble and slow. - Hence we read that men for 2000 years After the fall, attained to the great Age of nearly a thousand years. It was not for sometime After the deluge that the life of man was contracted to its present limits. Many Causes concured to produce this Change in the duration of human life. One of the most powerful has been the influence of the deluge upon the Surface of the earth & the temperature and Quality of the Atmosphere; but Other Causes seem to have combined with

it, for not only the earth & Air, But the
Sea — all our Aliments and Drinks — all
our occupations & pursuits — insects and
reptiles — wild and Domestic Animals,
our own malignant passions, may
even our very pleasures all seem to have
to have taken part with the Offended
Majesty of Heaven and to have conspired to destroy
the life of man. That life is the effect of
impressions, and preserved only by the
moderate degree of them, or by counter=
-acting Stimuli ~~too~~ is no less consonant
to Religion, than to true philosophy. It
would seem as if life ~~was~~ were the Offspring of
a Constant Strife, and it owed its existence
that
for 10, 20, 50 & even an 100 years

wholly to the ~~succession~~ successive victories of the stimuli enumerated in the lectures upon animal life, over the causes which conspire to extinguish it.

In entering upon the history of the maladies & disastrous diseases to which the human body & mind are exposed, let us not arraign the divine Goodness nor suppose the benevolent Father of the human race delights in the pain or sickness of his Creatures. ~~This~~ This is so far from being the case, that they are both blessings in disguise, and in the present imperfect State of human nature are absolutely necessary to individual and general happiness. To console us under the melancholy view of human misery

which I am about to lay before you,
I shall briefly mention the kinds and
important uses which diseases are pro-
-bably intended to answer in the present
state of the ~~world~~ world.

1 Diseases lead us to the study of Anatomy,
whereby we are led to admire the infinite
wisdom & goodness of the supreme Being
discovered in the structure of the human
body. Without such Objects as the unwell
of diseases, and the preservation of health,
who would ever handle a dissecting knife
or erect an anatomical ~~Lecture~~ theatre?

~~— The senses conspire to condemn them both~~
and
~~Disagreeable, and nothing but duty, would~~
A
And Unless this were done,
~~— but~~ without the Objects all the wisdom

and goodness of the supreme Being discovered
in the Structure of the human body would
have tarnished upon it in vain, and perished
with it when it descended into the
grave.

2 Diseases have been the means of impelling
us to the study not only of the structure
of the human body, but of all other
animals in Order to discover the uses
of every part of them, many of which would
Obtained, has been called Physiology. Much
as we derive from the examination
of dead bodies, whether those of our species
or brute Animals, it is Evident
have never been
of the Functions of both would
known to us had they not been
discovered by the effects of

diseases upon them.

3 Diseases have led us to study the works of the Creator in the Vegetable, mineral and Animal kingdoms. It is true many of the wants of men in civilized society have impelled him to explore the wilderness and bowels of the earth, but how few Discoveries have those wants produced in natural history and chemistry compared with the more powerful motives of obtaining relief from sickness and pain.

4 Diseases by imposing constant study and attention in search of their causes, seats, Symptoms and remedies, contribute very much to improve and extend the intellectual faculties of the mind.

6 the exercise of the

5 Without diseases, ~~the world be~~

moral virtues, particularly of humanity

and benevolence would have been very

much limited in their operations. How

small are the distresses of poverty when

unaccompanied with sickness! — How

in Hospitals & Dispensaries in which

Charity finds the most ample & constant

employment, and in which man is

permitted to become in the most eminent

Degree

the deputy of that Attribute of the Deity

which Delights in the relief of human

misery.

6 The human body & mind are so formed

that contrast is necessary to their pleasures &

happiness. The ~~[illegible]~~ serene & temperate

weather of June, is rendered more pleasant by

recollecting the cold & storms of Winter - the
morning light, chears us most when it has
succeeded a ~~night~~ long night of Darkness,
- Adversity renders ~~beauty~~ more captivating,
and the evils of error & vice enhance the
charms of truth & virtue. In like manner
a proper relish for
- nes the inestimable blessing of health is & der
- ived chiefly from ~~its being preceded~~ by the dread of
having been preceded, ~~by sickness & pain~~
its being followed by sickness & pain.
7 Did we relinquish our present comfortable
residence in this world in the full enjoyment
of health, and of all the blessings that are
connected with it, death would be terrible to
us in prospect. beyond the possibility of en-
= during it; but diseases are kindly sent to
reconcile us to death, very more in some
instances to render it the first object of our

wishes. But

by
Diseases not only reconcile us to our
own deaths, but the pains & sufferings they
create in our dearest friends, reconcile us to
their deaths likewise, and sometimes cause
us to look for with solicitude, and to welcome
the moment which shall by terminating
their present sufferings put an end to their
misery. By the physical influence of diseases upon the
moral faculties, they conduce very much
to improve our virtues, and to form
in the habits of moral order & good ways.
The virtue produced by these means
is of a sublime nature, and this has always
been considered as more estimable in the
sight of God & man than that which is
simply active. "It is not so much a sign

Of a great mind (says Wm Penn) to do great things ~~good~~, as it is to suffer great things with ~~fortitude~~ resignation and ~~fortitude~~ fortitude[1]. Thousands of thousands ~~have~~ of people have acquired this precious Virtue by the sufferings of a Dangerous acute: or chronic disease.

We have hitherto mentioned the combined effects of disease & pain, but pain alone has many advantages connected with it. ~~It is probably one of the first symptoms of life. The body is the production of life.~~ It informs us in many cases of the seats of diseases, - it is one of their principal signs, and when it occurs in their early stage it disposes sick people to desist from their ordinary pursuits, and to seek by rest, or medical aid for relief. It imparts

vigor & activity to the mind, and in the
last place it is a remedy for many
diseases. The universal
has always done practice of man=
=kind, ~~does~~ horrage to pain in certain
circumstances of the System. We are
~~do~~ disposed to respect a child is ~~is~~ Dead,
~~or insensible~~ from the first inspirations of the air upon
not utter signs of pain & ~~but we are dis~~ dis= expres
its lungs & skin, and we are
=tressed when our friends ~~are~~ cease to ~~speak~~
this pain by groans or sobbings in this
of this diseases. But the beneficial effects
of pain are best seen in the mortality
of those diseases which come on without
it, such as Consumptions, Cancers,
chronic inflammation of the lives &
frozen limbs. In the last, ~~the~~ we are

V I have thus far spoken of the benefits we derive from what are called acquired diseases only; but the body derives great benefit from what I have called Natural ~~Vitals~~ or what might be called "hereditary" diseases. ~~Diseases~~, these are sleep - hunger - thirst - generation - pregnancy and parturition. ~~They~~ The latter are necessary to give the first impulses to life - the former are necessary to preserve it. In short the body is kept alive as certainly by these diseases, as it is by the constant inhalation of air, and by the daily use of aliment. - But even acquired diseases when they are of an acute nature often carry off habitual or chronic diseases, & sometimes destroy the predisposition to them. Thus plague, and yellow fever have often in this way added years to the life and health of persons previously delicate constitutions, and who were often

told in some northern countries, the toes are destroyed without the patient feeling any pain, and the cold thereby permitted to affect the whole body with disease & death.

V. In entering upon this part of my course I am left with few aids from any predecessors, from any treatise on the different branches of medicine. Dr Boerhaave began a system of pathology, but left it in an imperfect state. Dr Hallers and Dr Hoffmans works abound with excellent pathological remarks, but they are without order or principles. Dr Quincies has given us an extensive system of pathology, but it is founded so exclusively upon the humoral pathology of this

=in disposed with fable but dangerous diseases.
The healthy diseases may be compared to the ~~constant~~ daily
Variations in the temperature and motions of
the air ∓ as below

of the benefits we derive from
∓ I have thus far spoken ~~of~~ what
may be called acquired diseases only, but the
body derives great benefits from what I have
called natural or vital diseases such as thirst,
hunger. thirst, menstruation pregnancy & parturition.

They are necessary to originate as well as
to preserve life of the human body.
this body is
use kept alive by these diseases as certain=
it is
=ly as we are by the Air we breath, and
by daily aliment ∓

∓ which preserve its purity & healthiness,
while the acquired diseases resemble hurri=
=canes which with all the terror & desolati=
=on they spread thro a country, renew &
purify the air, chase away Epidemics, & cure
diseases which had long eluded the
power of medicine.

master D^r Boerhaave, and ~~with~~ is so
obscure that ~~the~~ 2no apistance can be derived
from it ~~by~~ ~~comparing~~ ~~parts~~ ~~together~~ that
will accord with the principles I purpose
to deliver in this part of our Course.

In the wilderness that is before me
I venture therefore alone and with trembling
steps. ~~to~~ ~~find~~. the stars by night, and the
Course of ~~the~~ ~~rivers~~ streams of water ~~shall~~ by
day, or in other words, facts as real & as
unchangeable as the stars & streams of water shall be
my only guides in my attempt to travel
through it. Should I be led for a moment
by any thing that shall counterfit those
great & certain marks, I sincerely hope
you may at once detect my errors, and
refuse to follow me.

By Pathology I mean that Science which treats of the causes, effects, seats & signs of dis-
=eases.

There have been many definitions of disease. ~~That~~ The last exceptionable of any that I have met with is that which Dr Sydenham has ~~rejected~~ in the preface to his Works. It is as follows. "Disease consists in the Confused & irregular Operations of disordered & debilitated Nature!" You will I hope see the ~~There is much profound~~ truth and propriety of this definition when I come to deliver the history of the Causes & phaenomina of diseases. It embraces the functions of both body and mind. The Causes of diseases have been divided into remote; predisposing, occasional or exciting, and proximate.

I shall briefly illustrate what I mean by each of them by two or three examples.

The action of Cold is the remote cause of inflammatory fever. The debility & excitability in the blood vessels induced by this Cold is its predisposing cause. The heat of a the Vernal Sun, or a stove room, or of a warm bed is its occasional or exciting cause, and a commotion in the blood vessels its proximate cause by which I mean what Dr Gambier calls "ipse morbus," or the disease itself.

Again - Marsh exhalations are the remote cause of bilious fever, the debility and excitability induced by them, in the

blood vessels are its predisposing cause —
— a fright — fatigue — or an intemperate meal
is its exciting cause, — and its proximate
cause is a convulsion in the blood vessels &
Disease in some of its forms in the
stomach and bowels.

Lastly. — Intemperance is the remote
cause of Gout — the debility & excitability in-
duced by the in
being over stimulated by the excess in
eating & drinking is its predisposing
cause, — Fatigue, watching, or an
article of indigestible Aliment, is its
exciting or occasional cause, & a Convul-
sion in the blood vessels or a Spasm in
the Stomach, are its proximate cause,
or the Gout itself. —

You are not to suppose that ~~all these~~ the
concurrence of the remote, predisposing
& exciting causes, or like distinct links of a
chain are necessary to produce each of
those diseases. By no means. Lots may
become at once the remote-predisposing
& exciting Cause of an inflammatory
fever. Miasmata may become at
once the remote-predisposing & exciting
cause of a bilious fever, & a fit of Drunken
intoxication may become both the
remote - ~~and~~ predisposing & exciting cause
of a paroxysm of Gout.

But further, - there are Diseases in
which ~~but~~ two of the causes prior to
the paroxysm, ~~are sometimes united~~ are sometimes united.
~~are sometimes united~~ ~~placed~~.

19

For example ~~Thos~~ a Nail in the foot is at all times both the exciting cause of Tetanus; and the poison ~~Cause of Spread~~ ~~debility & excitability in~~ of a rabid animal, as also the variolous ~~the muscles, its predisposing, & convulsive~~ ~~Motion in the muscles its proximate~~ Matter are at all times both ~~the~~ a remote & exciting causes in the former case of Hydrophobia, & in the latter of the small pox. —

Once more, there are cases in which ~~the~~ the remote ~~cause becomes at once the~~ predisposing, & exciting Causes are completely united ~~and~~ in the production of disease. Thus the exhalations from a hogshead of putrid river water ~~become~~ to produced death in a number of Sailors at

Rochfort without the apparent intervention of ~~Debility~~ predisposing Debility

or ~~the Aid~~ ~~exciting~~ of ~~an~~ the additional stimulus of an exciting cause.

I have delivered these definitions & explanations of the causes of diseases in conformity to the practice of the old schools of medicine. They will be resumed and with some amplification in another form, in our history of the phaenomena & formation of diseases, which will be the next object of our attention. For this purpose I shall first deliver & endeavour to Demonstrate a few general propositions.

1